24 January 1964

MEMO (dictated) FOR THE RECORD

25X1A9a

1. Today ███████████ gave me some background on his recent inquiries relative to SORO and the NIS.

2. A short time ago Gen Carter received a note from a retired Gen Kuter (presumably Larry, former Air Force Senior Officer) saying that he had recently been in Leopoldville where a Service Attache handed him some SORO books on the country and commented that these were the best things they have been able to lay their hands on. Kuter indicated he was reasonably impressed and he asked whether (a) Carter could help him get copies of other SORO studies, and (b) what if anything CIA was doing along these lines. Gen Carter asked McMahan in effect to see whether these publications made the NIS "academic."

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3. ███████ said he had drawn on material supplied from OBI and other inquiries and forwarded to Carter a couple of pages with supporting attachments about SORO, and with the conclusion in effect that the more appropriate question might well be whether the SORO publications were not academic in view of the NIS. (He agreed to forward a copy of this recent memo.)

4. He attached possible significance to a current call from Larry Houston apparently raising question as to the basis for the NIS being classified as it is, etc. Apparently this question had arisen at a hearing by the Bolton (?) Committee which had asked what CIA was doing in the way of providing intelligence in the general field of counterinsurgency and complaining that this committee had never been given any information by CIA officials. Houston thought this would come to Carter's attention and might lead to some specific inquiries. ███████, who had consulted with 25X1A9a the DDI before forwarding his memo to the DDCI, said that he felt any further question about the NIS classification or declassification, or relationships with SORO, properly should be referred to OBI.

PGB

Distribution:
SORO
NIS Program
Classification of NIS
  SA/AD/BI
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